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THURSDAY, *SEPTEMBER* 25, 1735.

To Mr. BAVIUS, *Secretary to the Society of* Grub-ſtreet.

SIR,

YOU lately very juſtly and very ingeniouſly expoſed the *Philoſopher's Prayer*. As I think the Philoſopher's reaſoning is as extraordinary as his manner of praying, and that there is as little of ſolidity in his arguments, as there is of devotion in his addreſs to the Deity; I hope your readers will be here convinced of the weakneſs of one of thoſe grand principles of his reaſoning againſt Chriſtianity, one of thoſe wonderful pillars, which ſupport his renowned fabrick of infidelity.

'If God only commands, ſays the Philoſopher, what 'the nature of things ſhews to be fit, 'tis ſcarce poſſible 'that men ſhould miſtake their duty, ſince a mind that 'is attentive, can as eaſily diſtinguiſh fit from unfit, as the 'eye can beauty from deformity.'

The pretended argument in theſe words, is ſo well expoſed by an excellent writer, that it is as needleſs to give any other anſwer than what he has given, as it is difficult to give a better. For after having ſhewn, that God's own nature muſt be the reaſon, rule, and meaſure of his actions, which are only fit and reaſonable, becauſe they are according to this rule and reaſon; and that nothing can be fit for God to do, but what is founded in his own divinely perfect and incomprehenſible nature; he proceeds upon this principle, to evince the utter impoſſibility of comprehending many of God's actions; and inſtances in creation and providence, as containing many difficulties, which the nature of things ſhews us not the fitneſs of, and which are abſolutely unaccountable and unconceivable. I think I need make no apology for tranſcribing ſo much from ſo good a writer.

'Look (ſays he) at the *reaſon* of things, and the *fitneſs* 'of actions, and tell me how they mov'd God to create 'mankind in the ſtate and condition they are in. No'thing is more above the reaſon of men, than to explain 'the reaſonableneſs and infinite wiſdom of God's provi'dence, in creating man of ſuch a *form* and *condition*, to 'go through *ſuch* a ſtate of things as human life has 'ſhewn itſelf to be. No revealed myſteries can more 'exceed the comprehenſion of man, than the ſtate of 'human life itſelf.

'Shew me according to what *fitneſs* founded in the *na'ture* of things, God's infinite wiſdom was determin'd 'to form you in ſuch a manner, bring you into ſuch a 'world, and ſuffer and preſerve *ſuch a ſtate* of things, 'as human life is; and then you may have ſome pretence 'to believe no revealed doctrines, but ſuch as your own 'reaſon can deduce from the nature of things, and the 'fitneſs of actions.

'But whilſt your own *form*, whilſt *creation* and *provi'dence* are depths, which you cannot thus look into, 'tis ſtrangely abſurd to pretend, that God cannot reveal 'any thing to you as a matter of religion, except your 'own reaſon can ſhew its foundation in the nature and 'reaſon of things.

'For does not your own *make*, and *conſtitution*, the 'reaſonableneſs of God's providence, and the *fitneſs* of 'the ſtate of human life, as much concern you, as any 'reveal'd doctrines? Is it not as *unfit* for God to create 'man in ſuch a *ſtate*, ſubject to ſuch a *courſe* of provi'dence, as he can't *prove* to be founded in the *fitneſs* and 'reaſonableneſs of things; as to reveal to him ſuch truths, 'or methods of ſalvation, as he cannot by any argu'ments of his own prove to be neceſſary?

'*Revelation*, you ſay, is on your account, and there'fore you ought to ſee the *reaſonableneſs* and *fitneſs* of it. 'And don't you alſo ſay, that God has made you for 'your *own ſake*, ought you not therefore to know the 'reaſonableneſs and fitneſs of God's forming you as you 'are? Don't you ſay that providence is for the *ſake* of 'man? Is it not therefore fit and reaſonable, in the na'ture of things, that there ſhould be no *myſteries* or *ſe'crets* in providence, but that man ſhould ſo ſee its me'thods, as to be able to prove all its ſteps to be conſtant'ly fit and reaſonable.

'Don't you ſay, that the *world* is for the ſake of man; 'is it not therefore fit and reaſonable that man ſhould ſee, 'that the *paſt* and *preſent* ſtate of the world has been 'ſuch as the reaſon and fitneſs of things required it 'ſhould be?

'Now if the *imperfect* ſtate of human nature, the *mi'ſeries* and *calamities* of this life, the *diſeaſes* and morta'lity of human bodies, the method of God's continual 'providence in governing human affairs, are things that 'as much concern us, and as nearly relate to us, as any 'methods of reveal'd religion; and if theſe are things 'that we cannot examine or explain, according to any 'fitneſs or *unfitneſs* founded in the *nature* of things, but 'muſt believe a great deal more of the infinite wiſdom 'of God, than we can ſo explain; have we any reaſon 'to think, that God cannot, or ought not to raiſe 'us out of this unhappy ſtate of things, help us to an 'higher order of life, and exalt us to a nearer enjoyment 'of himſelf, by any means, but ſuch as our own poor rea'ſon can grope out of the nature and fitneſs of things?

'The origin of *ſin* and *evil*, or how it enter'd into 'the world, conſiſtently with the infinite wiſdom of God, 'is a myſtery of *natural religion*, which reaſon cannot 'unfold. For who can ſhew from the *reaſon* and *nature* 'of things, that it was *fit* and *reaſonable*, for the provi'dence of God to ſuffer ſin and evil to enter and conti'nue in the world as they have? Here therefore the 'man of natural religion muſt drop his method of reaſo'ning from the nature and fitneſs of things, and that in 'an article of the higheſt concern to the moral world, 'and be as mere a believer, as he that believes the moſt 'incomprehenſible myſtery of revealed religion.

'Now as there has been in the ſeveral ages of the 'world, ſome *impatient*, *reſtleſs*, and *preſuming* ſpirits, 'who, becauſe they could not in theſe points explain the 'juſtice of God's providence, have taken refuge in hor'rid *Atheiſm*, ſo they made juſt the ſame *ſober uſe* of 'their reaſon, as our *modern unbelievers*; who, becauſe 'they can't comprehend as they would, the *fitneſs* and 'neceſſity of certain Chriſtian doctrines, reſign themſelves 'up to an hardened *infidelity*. For it is juſt as wiſe and 'reaſonable to allow of no myſteries in *revelation*, as to 'allow of no myſteries or ſecrets in *creation* and *pro'vidence*.'

I here ſend you ſome verſes, upon the ſubject of *Fitneſs*, which I hope will not be thought improper to follow what has been here argued by this ingenious gentleman.

On the Deiſts Scheme of Fitneſs.

Some daring Wits have rais'd an impious ſcheme,
To laws and rules ſubjecting the *Supreme*:
They, with no ſacred fear or rev'rence aw'd,
With obligations wou'd reſtrain their God;
Boldly aſſigning a ſuperior rule,
Which God muſt act by, and muſt God controul;
Maintaining an *extrinſic* principle,
Informs his wiſdom, and directs his will;
And that their faith in ſacred truths and things
From an *appearing* fitneſs only ſprings;
Thinking by this to quench the Goſpel's light,
And the blind world involve in Pagan night;
Saying, 'By this Criterion that 'tis giv'n,
'To know what comes from man, and what from heav'n;
'All idle ſuperſtitions to explode,
'Credulity reveres as laws of God.'

A fitneſs we, as well as they, maintain,
That muſt in God's proceedings ever reign.
But *one* great queſtion, we ſhall canvaſs here,
Is if this fitneſs always muſt appear.
In providence, if always to be found,
Where'er we turn our wond'ring eyes around;
In many of his *works*, if not conceal'd,
As much at leaſt, as in his *word reveal'd*.
The fitneſs do you ſee, why God creates
So *variouſly*? Why their reſpective ſtates
He has aſſign'd to angels, brutes, and men?
Why 'tis he thus diverſifies the ſcene?
Such different bleſſings why his creatures ſhare,
Here ſo profuſe his hand, ſo ſcanty there?
Say not, 'All's right if his indulgence grants
'What each capacity of being wants:
'Though Great that being, and though Little this,
'If all enjoy their *full* and *proper* bliſs,
'Th' *All-wiſe* and *Good* can never act amiſs.'

Uſeleſs this anſwer, on your ſcheme, muſt lie,
An empty ſound, inſtead of juſt reply.
To aim it right, you muſt advance it higher;
For why each nature differs, we require.
To ſee that fitneſs, we from you demand,
Which guided firſt the Great All-forming hand;
Whence all the difference of being flow'd,
And whence ſuch various bounty was beſtow'd.
'Tis not enough that providence you draw
Within the ſphere of this your abſtract law;
O'er the *firſt* ſchemes of Heav'n it muſt preſide,
To Pow'r *creative* an unerring guide.

The middle ſphere why man poſſeſſes, ſhow,
Angels above him, and the brutes below.
The Seraph, why indulg'd ſo bright a day,
So ſtrong his luſtre, and ſo weak our ray.
Through ſcenes of truth his views immediate paſs,
Whilſt we but ſee them darkly, through a glaſs.
His knowledge more extenſive, as more clear,
And wide-diffus'd his intellectual ſphere!

Why, lower ſtill than man, are brutes depreſs'd?
Why reaſon's fires not lighted in their breaſt?
Why inſtinct only guides, and gives them laws,
A principle, unconſcious of its cauſe;
Which nature views with unobſerving eye;
Nor nature's Lord in nature's works can ſpy.

Sound then this wond'rous depth of providence,
Of man but bleſt with reaſon, brutes with ſenſe;
Of angels, in the ſcale of *ſcience high*,
And near in converſe with the Deity.
Gradations wonderful, and hard t' explain,
Eluſive of thy ſcheme, preſumptuous man!

Who ſees that fitneſs, why brutes are decreed
Our ſlaves to toil and ſweat, to groan and bleed?
Why, for our food, the unrelenting knife
Deprives the meek and harmleſs lamb of life?
That fitneſs who can ſee, himſelf why man
Is born to ſo much miſery and pain?
Why in ſuch troubled ſcenes he draws that breath,
Which ſighs in anguiſh, and expires in death?
On man why miſery's entail'd at all?
Let thoſe explain, who diſbelieve his fall;
And let them ſhew us, on their principle,
Whence ſprings each natural and moral ill.
And whence are they diſorder'd but by ſin,
The world without us, and the mind within.
Whence 'tis that reaſon differs in each mind:
The eyes of theſe ſo piercing, thoſe ſo blind.
Why ſome ne'er to the uſe of reaſon come,
But are untimely hurried to the tomb.
Why ſuch a pronenеſs ſome men have to ill;
Whilſt ſome not half the ſtrength of paſſions feel;
In *all* why reaſon bears ſo weak a ſway,
And what ſhould govern, ſhould ſo oft obey.

Alas! the ſcheme of fitneſs, vain and bold,
Will theſe perplexing mazes ne'er unfold.
So high God's thoughts above the thoughts of man,
That if the book of *Providence* you ſcan,
By the ſame rule, the Scriptures ſome have try'd,
'Twill not the bold and impious teſt abide.
Whole pages *there*, you'll ſay, are not inſpir'd,
Fitneſs a different ſcheme of things requir'd;
And thus to horrid Atheiſm will you fly,
And him, whoſe kingdom rules o'er all, deny.

But if to providence you ſhould ſubmit,
Own without ſeeing, all is right and fit;
Then the ſame rev'rence ſhew to ſacred writ:
Content to know God *muſt* be good and wiſe;
Though theſe perfections, oft in deep diſguiſe
Are wrapt (in their effects) from human eyes;
Th' unfolding which, in our next happy ſtate,
Try'd here, and exerciſ'd, let's humbly wait.

R. T.

DOMESTIC NEWS.

P. *Daily Poſt-Boy.*
DP. *Daily Poſt.*
DJ. *Daily Journal.*
DA. *Daily Advertiſer.*
LP. *London Daily Poſt.*
G. *Daily Gazetteer.*
SJ. *St. James's Evening Poſt.*
LE. *London Evening Poſt.*

THURSDAY, *Sept.* 18. On friday at the anniverſary meeting of the Sons of the clergy at Newcaſtle upon

Tyne, the rev. Sir John Dolben preached an excellent ſermon, and the collection amounted to upwards of 239 l. *DA.*

Yeſterday the ſeſſions ended at the Old Baily, when 3 perſons receiv'd ſentence of death, viz. Mary Wooton, a girl not ten years old, for ſtealing 29 l. 2 s. Will. Lewis, for houſe-breaking; Joſhua Dean, for counterfeiting the ſtamps upon paper, [the duty on ſtamps. *DA.* ——— On treble ſix-penny ſtamp'd paper. *LP.*] Iſaac Dennis, for a robbery on the highway; Patrick Gaffney, for ſtealing 2 tankards from the Hoop tavern in the Strand. [This was the ſham ſurgeon, a witneſs for Macray. *LP.* —Edmund Togwell, Peter Matthews, and James Whitney, alias Pug, for a rape; Cha. Conner, for the murther of his wife; Geo. Holloway, and Will. Philips, alias Clarke, for horſe-ſtealing; [a taylor at Linehouſe where Macray lodg'd, ſuppos'd to be the man that robb'd with him, and eſcap'd when he was taken. *LP.*] and Jam. Farrell and Cha. Hooper, for a robbery on the highway, 5 were burnt in the hand. *DP.* —— 48 ordered for tranſportation. *G.*

Died on monday at Lewiſham, in his 69th year, Capt. Rich. Newton. *DP.* —— On tueſday of a dropſy in Boſwell-court, Orlando Hamlin, Eſq; one of the Filazers of the court of Common-pleas. —— In the Fleet-priſon, Mr. Yardley, a gentleman of near 700 l. a year, yet confined there near 10 years, in execution for 100 l. debt: effects and ſecurities of near 5000 l. value were found, we hear, in his room. *DA.* —— Mr. Conndrum *thinks, he ought to have been* confined in *a cloſer* execution.

Yeſterday, in Little Britain, Mr. Geo. James, printer to the city of London. *DP. DA. DJ.* ——— He was, till very lately, author of the foreign news in the *Daily Poſt-Boy*, which was at that time in great credit. *LP.* — My brother, *writeing like an* Orator, *forgot to tell us* at what time.

On tueſday morning, a young man about 20 years of age, at Cock-hill, Ratcliffe, after he had breakfaſted, went up ſtairs and hanged himſelf. *LP.*

FRIDAY, *Sept.* 19. We hear that the marriage of his royal highneſs with the Princeſs of Saxe-Gotha, will be ſolemniz'd at Eyſenach, ſome time next month, the Lord Harrington ſtanding proxy for the Prince; and that her Highneſs's journey to England will be put off till February. *DJ. G.* ——— We are again aſſured, that her royal highneſs the Princeſs of Saxe-Gotha will not come to England till April next, when the nuptial ceremonies will be perform'd; but we hear nothing of the report ſpread in a trifling Paper, that her highneſs was ill of the ſmall pox. *P.*

Great intereſt is making to the court of Aldermen for the place of city printer, the court having come to a reſolution not to expoſe any more of their places to ſale, that they may have the liberty upon any neglect to remove them. *DP.* —— *What*, the places?

On monday two taylors, one an Engliſhman, the other a German, began to walk 50 miles a day for a week round Wimbleton-common, when one of them walked 8 miles more than the other; on tueſday they continued very ſoon their walk, but his majeſty's juſtices of peace for that county were pleaſed to take them up, as vagabonds. *P.* ——— *That is*, wandering, *as well as* walking taylors.

Married on monday ſe'nnight, Raphael Courteville, Eſq; to Miſs Lucy Green, a young lady of diſtinguiſh'd wit and beauty, and a fortune of 25,000 l. *DP.*

Died on ſunday at Littlecot in the county of Wilts, Francis Popham, Eſq; poſſeſs'd of 7000 l. per ann. *P. DA. LP.* ——— On monday in Preſcot-ſtreet, Goodman's-fields, Edmund Meadows, Eſq; for many years a lunatick. *DP.* ——— On wedneſday in Southampton-ſtreet, the lady Windford, relict of Sir Thomas. *P. DJ. DA. G.* ——— Yeſterday morning near Clapham, Mr. James Mandevil, an eminent hoſier in High-Holborn, worth 12,000 l. *P.*

On wedneſday the ſon of Mr. Vaux, an eminent vintner in the Borough, fell down ſtairs, broke his neck, and died ſoon after. *P.* ——— A boat coming from Greenwich run acroſs a ſhip's hawſer and was overſet, by which accident Mrs. Baldwin of Covent-garden was drown'd. *DP.*

On wedneſday a young woman named Hamilton, was found dead with ſeveral marks of violence, at her lodgings in Denmark-court in the Strand. *DJ.* ——A young woman about 33 years of age. *P.* ——— About 23. Her death was diſcovered by a perſon's bringing a coffin, but the miſtreſs of the houſe, not knowing there was any body dead, refus'd to let him in, but he producing a direction to people who lodg'd up ſtairs, ſhe ſhewed him the room, where they found the poor girl lying behind the door ſtark naked, and full of ſpots: there was no furniture in the room. *DA.* ——— Stabb'd under her right ear: the door nail'd up, and the windows faſt. *LP.*

SATURDAY, *Sept.* 20. The right hon. Sir Cha. Wager has a green pine-apple tree in his garden, which 'tis not known is in Europe beſide, and even eſteem'd a curioſity in America, whence it was brought: and on thurſday Sir Charles preſented her majeſty with one of the pine-apples, which was ripe, and in the utmoſt perfection. *DA.*

The ten men of war that were ordered out of the fleet at Spithead to be pay'd off, are countermanded. *P.*

Laſt night their graces the duke and dutcheſs of Richmond arriv'd in good health in Arlington-ſtreet from France. *DA.* ——— With the right hon. the lady Harvey. *G.*

We hear Mr. Aiſlabie is ſhortly expected in town, from Yorkſhire, in order to ſatisfy the impatience of his adverſaries, by an anſwer to the ſcurrilous libels publiſh'd againſt him relating to the Bank contract. *DP.*

Yeſterday Mr. Baron Thompſon made his report of the 13 malefactors, &c. *DP.* ——— Will make it tomorrow. *G.*

Mr. Johnſon of the Navy-office, has brought an action of 100 l. againſt the two perſons who ſtole his notes, who tho' acquitted of the felony by the expiration of the act, are yet liable to damages. *DA.*

Married on thurſday, at the chapel in Duke-ſtreet, Will. Ebral, of Buckinghamſhire, Eſq; of about 4000 l. per ann. to Miſs Carolina Rundal, a beautiful young lady with 18,000 l. fortune. *P.* ——— Yeſterday Hen Sellars of Roehampton, Eſq; to Miſs Sophia Cleare, a fortune of 12,000 l. *G.*

Died laſt week of the ſmall-pox, in 2 days, near Burlington-gardens, 3 daughters of Geo. Webb of Great Coxwell in Berkſhire, Eſq; *P.* ——— On thurſday, at Dagnams near Brentwood, in her 69th year, the Lady Sudbury, wife of the hon Edw. Carteret, Eſq; *DA.* ——— At Dagenham houſe. *G.* ——— Yeſterday near Eltham, of a convulſion, John Holyhead, Eſq; *P.*

Yeſterday morning, a child about 4 years old, was found murdered in the fields behind Powis's houſe, in Great Ormond-ſtreet. *P.*

Yeſterday morning a young woman going in a boat from Weſtminſter to Fullham, jump'd out of the boat, over-againſt the water work, and was drowned. *G.* — A boat was overſet in Chelſea-reach, and a man and a woman with the waterman were all drowned. *DJ.* —— One Smith hanged himſelf in Harts-horn-lane in the Strand. *G.*

As an ancient man was walking in one of the ſtreets at York, he was ſhot into the left breaſt by a lad, who raſhly let off a gun, loaded with one or more bullets: the old man fell down dead in an inſtant. *DA.*

MONDAY, *Sept.* 22. Yeſterday the rev. Dr. Thomas preach'd before her majeſty, his royal highneſs the Prince, &c. ——— The rev. Dr. Bradſhaw before his highneſs the duke, &c. ——— There was a great appearance of the nobility, clergy, and gentry. *P.*

Sir Charles Wager receiv'd her majeſty's orders to get the royal yachts ready to ſail to Holland on ſaturday next, to wait his majeſty's arrival. *P. LP. G.* ——— Preparations are making for ſending a ſupply of proviſions to Sir John Norris's fleet at Lisbon. *DA.*

M. Ulrick, known at court by the name of the *Young Turk*, hath obtained leave to return to England, after an exile of about 7 years at Hanover. *LP.*

Yeſterday their graces, the Duke and Dutcheſs of Richmond, went to Kenſington to wait on her majeſty, &c. *P.* ——— On ſaturday. *DJ.* —— After which they ſet out for Goodwood in Suſſex. *LP.*

A fire happening lately at Petworth, the Duke of Somerſet's ſeat in Suſſex, his Grace receiv'd about 300 l. damage in ſeveral barns being burnt down, &c. *DA.*

Some moſs lately brought from Bengal by Governor Adams, as a famous ſtyptick and aſtringent, has been adminiſter'd to her grace the Dutcheſs of Bedford, who has already found ſome relief thereby. *DA.*

On ſaturday Marg. Hamilton and her 2 daughters Rebecca and Margaret, were committed to Newgate, for the murder of Kath. Hamilton, the pretended daughter of Margaret. Her right name is ſaid to be Sarah Jackſon, and that ſhe lay-in lately near the Pindar of Wakefield. Margaret Hamilton about 15 or 16 years of age, confeſs'd that her cloaths were pawned at different places. *DP.*

Married laſt thurſday ſe'nnight, Harry Wyndham, Eſq; to Miſs Penruddock, a beautiful young lady, and a fortune of 6000 l. *G.* ——— A few days ſince Weſtley Hall, Eſq; of Salisbury, to Miſs Pattey Weſtley, an agreeable young gentlewoman of great merit. *DJ.* ——— On ſaturday, &c. *DP.*

Died on friday at Hoxton, Frampton Guy, Eſq; ſon of the late Sir Richard. *DA.* ——— On ſaturday. *DJ.* ——— At Brumpton, in his 92d year, Geo. Throckmorton, of Somerſetſhire, Eſq; *DJ.*

TUESDAY, *Sept.* 23. His majeſty has been pleas'd to appoint Sir James Ferguſſon, Bar. to be one of the Ordinary lords of the court of Seſſion in North Britain; and the right hon. the Lord Strichan, to be one of the Lords commiſſioners of Juſticiary. *DA.*

Yeſterday was held the annual feaſt at Chriſt's Hoſpital: the ſermon was preach'd by the rev. Dr. Roper; the orations in Latin and Engliſh were ſpoken by Pet. Richardſon and James Smith, two of the head ſcholars, &c. *DP.* —— The Latin orations *P.* ——— An oration in praiſe of their benefactors. *DJ.*

Laſt week at the Infirmary at Weſtminſter, a ſtone was taken by Mr. Cheſelden, from one Mr. Wood, a farmer of Shrewsbury, aged 72, 7 inches and a quarter round, and weighing 10 ounces and a dram; and yeſterday he was thought paſt danger. *DA.*

Married, a few days ago, the hon. Mr. Murray, ſon of the Lord Elibank, to Mary-Margaretta, relict of the late Lord North and Grey. ——— Mr. Joſhua Thornton, an eminent apothecary in Chandos-ſtreet, Covent-garden, to Mrs. Arguis of Orchard-ſtreet, Weſtminſter, a gentlewoman with a fortune of 12,000 l. *DA.*

Died, on ſunday, in Soho-ſquare, Major Somerfield's Lady, who had been delivered of 2 children, after 3 days labour. *DP.* ——— Yeſterday near Bloomsbury-ſquare, in child-bed, the lady of Phil. Dunning of Northamptonſhire, Eſq; *P.*

Laſt friday a boy about 10 years of age, a widow's ſon in Southwark, having received ſome chaſtiſement from her, told her it was the laſt time ſhe ſhould ever beat him; and about 3 hours after was found hanged on the poſt of the cellar ſtairs. *LP.* — *This* boy *ſeems to have anticipated the office of* Jach Catch.

Yeſterday a woman fell from a cart in Vine-ſtreet near Moorfields, and died within a quarter of an hour. *P.*

The ſame day 10 malefactors were executed at Tyburn, viz. Lewis, Gaffney, Dogwell, [Togwell. *DJ. G.*] Matthews, Whitney, Connor, Earrel, Hooper, Dennis, and Phillips. *LP.* ——— Who all behaved very devout and penitent. *G.* ——— Two behaved very boldly, and without any thoughts of a future ſtate. *P.* —— Lewis and Hooper, who toſs'd up their ſhoes among the populace, and uſed ſeveral idle expreſſions. *DP.* —— Whitney denied his being concerned in raviſhing the woman, but acknowledg'd that his 2 companions were guilty. *DJ. LP.* —— Togwell and Matthews declared, they never ſaw him till he was taken up. *G.* —— The ſurgeons obtained the bodies of Lewis and Dennis. *DJ.*

WEDNESDAY, *Sept.* 24. Yeſterday morning the Right Hon. Sir. Rob. Walpole held his firſt levee at his new houſe next the Treaſury in St. James's park: ſeveral perſons of diſtinction went to compliment him upon that occaſion, and his levee was extraordinary numerous. *DP.*

Yeſterday the Workmen began to pull down the houſe and office belonging to the Avenor and Clark-marſhall adjoining to his royal highneſs the Prince of Wales's houſe, at St. James's, in order to make ſome improvements to his royal highneſs's apartments. *DA.*

Her grace the Ducheſs of Bedford having been ſpeechleſs ever ſince yeſterday noon, the phyſicians have given her over. *P. LP.* ——— Lay ſpeechleſs on monday night; but yeſterday ſhe ſpoke and was hoped a little better. *DA.*

On ſunday evening Mr. Tookey grocer in the Strand, received a letter as from his child's nurſe at Lambeth, to let him know that the child was dying; and going to ſee it, he was attacked by two men and a woman, who robbed him of his watch, a guinea, and what ſilver he had; and told him that his child was well, and that he might return home if he pleaſed. *P.* —— On monday night about 11, the rev. Dr. Blomer was robb'd near Golden-ſquare by two foot-pads, of his ſilver watch, 2 guineas, and ſome ſilver; and tho' he was in a lay habit, he was known by the rogues, who call'd him by his name. *DA.*

On monday two more of the gang concern'd in raviſhing Margaret Mac Cullough, were committed to Newgate *DJ. G.*

On ſaturday ſome of the lodgers in a houſe in White-Hart-court, Drury-lane, hearing ſeveral groans in the apartment of the miſtreſs of the houſe, made an attempt to open the door, but finding it faſt lock'd, apply'd to the pariſh officers, who the next day broke it open, when they found the woman dead, and in all appearance for want; but upon ſearching the room, diſcover'd hid in ſeveral private places, 45 guineas, a South-ſea bond for 500 l. and other things to the value of 200 l. more. *DA.*

Married, ſome days ago, Geo. Lunt, Eſq; to Miſs Kath. Burroughs, a beautiful young lady of a very plentiful eſtate. *P.* ——— Yeſterday, at Fullham, Philip Cornforth, Eſq; to Miſs Jane Pearcehouſe of Barnes, a young gentlewoman with a fortune of 6000 l. *G.*

Died, on monday, in New Bond-ſtreet, James Parker of Suffolk, Eſq; aged about 25, who was to have been married next month to an heireſs. *DP.* —— About 35. *P.*

On friday Mr. Brown, maſter of the cold-bath at

Hoxton, fell down ſtairs, and died on ſunday. *G.* — On ſunday farmer Bitton returning to Byfleet from Kingſton, having drank too plentifully, fell from his horſe, and was found dead the next morning; he died worth 5000 l. in ſpecie, &c. *DP.*

From the PEGASUS *in Grub-ſtreet.*

THE late authors of the Bee having publiſhed a long Puff in the *Daily Poſt-Boy* of the 16th and 18th inſt. and in the *Daily Journal* of the 17th, and therein charged the Writers of our *Journal* with having made falſe quotations in the *Letter* concerning the *Philoſopher's Prayer*, publiſh'd in Numb. 296 and 298, it was thought neceſſary to examine particularly into that affair, and to repreſent the true ſtate of it to the public. They ſay that we 'have moſt *falſely* 'quoted their words in their *Introduction* to this Prayer, 'and have not printed the Prayer itſelf exactly true'.

This charge they ought not to have brought againſt our *Writers* in general, and on that account given them the appellation of *poor malicious writers*; but they ſhould have levelled it againſt the writer of that particular *Letter*. We do not think it incumbent upon us to examine every quotation in any piece ſent us by an unknown hand, and to compare it with the original; but imagine that we ſufficiently diſcharge our duty, if when any objections are made to the exactneſs of a quotation, we ſet the matter in a true light; which we ſhall do in the Caſe before us.

The words in the *Introduction* to the *Philoſopher's Prayer* ſtand thus, 'We are afraid that *Religious Controverſies* muſt always be *endleſs*, for this plain reaſon; 'namely, Becauſe they are about ſuch things as are in 'their own *nature* incapable of *Demonſtration*'. Which in the *Letter* are quoted thus: 'Religious controverſies are in their own nature incapable of demonſtration'. ——— How the writer of the *Letter* came to abridge the former by the latter, he can give the beſt account himſelf; and we think ought to do it. In the mean time, we are fully perſuaded, that he did it through inadvertency, and could not poſſibly *aim at impoſing upon the reader by a falſe quotation*, which did not at all relate to the main ſubject in diſpute, which muſt neceſſarily be diſcovered, and which in all probability would be vehemently urged againſt him in defect of all other arguments. The leaſt miſtake of this nature, tho' intirely foreign to the chief points of the controverſy, is great matter of triumph to theſe PHILOSOPHERS; and the diſcovery ſerves inſtead of an Anſwer to all the impieties and abſurdities proved upon them. They look upon it as a ſufficient defence, to call the ſtrongeſt arguments of their adverſaries *low ſcurrilities, and perſonal abuſes*; and to declare with a grave air of importance, *We conceive it* BENEATH *us to return any anſwer*.

As to the other part of the charge againſt us, That 'we have not printed the *Prayer* itſelf exactly true'; we anſwer, that we have compared our Copy with the Original, and find only the differences following. In line the 25th, before *pleaſe* we have omitted the word *either*; and in lines the 6th and 28th, we have inſerted two commas, which are not, but ought to have been in the Original: but neither the omiſſion, nor the inſertions alter the ſenſe. They might as juſtly have complained, that we *had not printed the* Prayer EXACTLY *true*, becauſe they had printed much the greateſt part in Italic, and many words with Capitals, which we have printed in Roman, and without Capitals. BAVIUS.

A SOLILOQUY *of* PUFFERUS SECUNDUS.

Theſe damn'd *Remarks* on *Philoſophic Prayer*
Are plaguy cloſe: to anſwer I deſpair.
Howe'er, I've found, I think, a *falſe quotation*,
(Tho' nothing to the point in diſputation);
I've found likewiſe, in *Prayer* thus toſt about,
They've put *two commas* in, and *either* out.
With this I'll make a noiſe, and ſtrutt, and huff;
And ſtead of *Anſwer*, give, as wont a — *Puff*.

MAEVIUS.

Since our laſt, we have received a *Letter* from INCOG. another from A. L. and an *Epigram*.

Yeſterday came certain advice by the Mercury, that there had been 15 ſhocks of an earthquarke felt at Antigua on July 16th and 17th; but very little or no damage happened. *DA. Sept.* 18.

They write from Montſerrat, that on July 16th they had ſeveral ſhocks of an earthquake, four of which were ſo violent, that 'twas every moment expected the iſland would have ſunk. *DP. Sept.* 24.

FOREIGN NEWS.

THURSDAY, *Sept.* 18. ——— *Paris, Sept.* 24. N. S. The Allied troops to the number of 60,000, that form the army of obſervation, have entered the State of Venice. M. du Chilois has ſeized 100 loaded barks upon the Adige, deſign'd for Mantua. *P. DP. DJ. LP.* — Not above 28. *LP. Sept.* 23.

'Tis ſaid, that the Emperor has condeſcended to make ſome propoſals to France *DA.*

They have finiſh'd at Paris a Salon of 20 foot ſquare, with 4 partitions in it, a large marble chimney, and tables, glaſſes, and pictures, with other curious and fine ornaments, which may be ſeparated, carry'd any where, and joined again with eaſe: it is to be ſent to a Grandee of Poland. *LP.*

King Staniſlaus and his friends at Koningsberg are ſtill big with expectation of ſomething very much in their favour to be done by the court of France. The noblemen attached to that prince, are ſaid to amount to upwards of 60, and the gentlemen to above 1500. They are continually feaſting. *LP.*

SATURDAY, *Sept.* 20. ——— *Heidelberg, Sept.* 17. Some are very confident here, that Prince Eugene will execute an enterprize of moment before he goes into winter quarters. *P.* ——— The Paris a la main ſays, that Prince Eugene has receiv'd poſitive orders not to attempt any thing this campaign. *DP. G. Sept.* 22.

We hear, that the king of Sweden is actually compleating his troops with the utmoſt expedition; and that a large fleet is equipping there, with orders to be ready to put to ſea by next ſpring; and we may aſſure the publick, that all theſe preparations are not for the Emperor's nor the Czarina's intereſt, the latter not having yet made ſatisfaction for the Swediſh ſhips lately taken by the Ruſſian men of war in the Height of Koningsberg. *P.*

MONDAY, *Sept.* 22. The city of Mantua is ſhut up on all ſides. *P. LP.*

We have advice from Petersbourg, that on Aug. 29, the Imperial, Britiſh, Dutch and Pruſſian miniſters, going over a little bridge on a canal, it broke, and they all fell into the water, with about 20 officers of the guards, but were ſaved by ſome boats. *DP. G.*

The Imperialiſts have ſuſtain'd another great loſs by the vigilance of the Allied army, which has diſcover'd a magazine of 12,000 ſacks of meal, and 3000 load of hay, purchas'd and laid up in the territories of Venice. *DA.*

TUESDAY, *Sept.* 23. We have now a more particular account from Venice, of the impriſonment of Count Siedniecky, miniſter from Poland to the Porte. When he preſented his credentials to the Reis Effendi, or ſecretary of ſtate, to be receiv'd as miniſter from king Auguſtus, after having abandon'd king Staniſlaus, the ſecretary order'd him to leave Conſtantinople immediately, which the Count not obeying, becauſe he was ſick, the Reis Effendi thought he trifled with him, and therefore ſent an Aga with a waggon, into which the Count was obliged to enter with ſo much precipitation, that he was not allowed to dreſs himſelf, but was hurry'd away in his night-gown, to Adrianople. All his domeſticks were likewiſe ſeized, and the Imperial and Ruſſian miniſters have enter'd their proteſts againſt ſuch violence; but perhaps the next turn may be theirs. *DP.* —— An Aga with a chariot. *G.* — *'Tis pity, the* Primate *is not under this* Mahometan diſcipline.

Our advices from Buda, by the way of Vienna, ſay, there has been a terrible execution there of late; 110 perſons were beheaded for being concerned in the diſturbances a year ago in Hungary, in favour of prince Ragotzki; and their chief, againſt whom very ſtrong proofs appear'd, was drawn in pieces by four horſes, which puniſhment he ſuffer'd with a ſupernatural courage and conſtancy: ſeven hangmen were employ'd in that laſt execution. *DP.*

The regency of Hamburgh has preſented the king of Pruſſia with 400 tall men, each of whom coſt 1250 crowns liſting. *DA.* —— Four tall men. *P. G. Sept.* 24.

WEDNESDAY, *Sept.* 24. Orders are come to Bruſſels for providing quarters for 40,000 Imperialiſts in the Auſtrian Netherlands. *DJ. G.*

Their High Mightineſſes deputies have been lately to talk over this affair with the Imperial miniſter here; but his Excellency anſwer'd, that as the Emperor had the misfortune not to be ſuccour'd by his antient and natural friends, he was oblig'd to make the beſt of his bad ſituation, and to endeavour to draw the enemy farther from the frontiers of the Empire, and to remove the ſeat of war into the heart of France if he ſhould be able: the deputies reply'd by repreſenting the ill conſequences of this deſign; but his Excellency rejoin'd, that ſeeing his Imperial majeſty was as it were abandon'd by his friends, he ought to be left to himſelf to deal with his enemies, and was compell'd to risk any ſacrifice rather than conclude a diſhonourable peace. *DA.*

Yeſterday Bank Stock was 141 1 half, a 2 1 4th, for the Opening. India 149 5 8ths, a 3 4ths. S. S. Trading-Stock 83. Old Annuities 108 1 4th, a 3 8ths, a 1 8th, a 1 4th, Books ſhut. New Annuities 107, a 1 4th, a 7. Three per Cent. Annuity 94 1 4th, a 3 8ths. Million Bank 108. African 15 1 half. Royal Aſſurance 97 1 half, a 3 4ths. London Aſſurance 12 1 half, a 5 8ths. New Bank Circulation 3 l. 17 s. 6 d. Prem. South-Sea Bonds 3 l. a 1 s. Prem. India ditto 5 l. Prem. Three per Cent. ditto 2 l. 16 s. a 17 s. Pr. Engliſh Copper 2 l. 2 s. Welſh ditto, Books ſhut. Salt Tallies 3 l. 5 s. a 7 s. 6 d. per Cent. Prem. Emperor's Loan 100 3 8ths.

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Note, The parliamentary Regiſter from 1660, which has been ſome Time in the preſs, has been delayed on Account of ſome Improvements to be added thereto; but will be now haſtened, and finiſh'd in about 2 months.

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Note. The Gentleman's Magazine for September will be publiſh'd the firſt of October.

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With Hum-drum Pedants take to make Folks wiſe,
By praiſing Virtue, and decrying Vice.
Let Parſons *tell what dreadful Ills will fall*
On ſuch as liſten when their Paſſions call:
We from ſuch Things our Pupils do affright.
Say not they're Sins, *but that they're unpolite.*
To ſhew their Courage, Beaus *wou'd often dare*
By blackeſt Crimes to brave old Lucifer.
But who, of Breeding nice, of Carriage civil,
Wou'd treſpaſs on good Manners for the Devil,
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